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July 20, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.   
Acting Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: SYPHILIS AND OTHER STD CONTROL EFFORTS

On June 13, 2006, your Board approved a motion by Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Molina, instructing the Director of Public Health to develop a comprehensive strategy and media campaign directed at prevention and intervention of syphilis and other STDs, and encouraging safe sex practices among all sectors of the population, particularly communities of color. The Board further instructed the Director to report to the Board in 30 days on this comprehensive strategy, including a budget and timeline, taking into account the increase in reported cases among women and the Latino and African American communities and providing a specific focus on cultural, linguistic, and gender appropriate materials.

On June 26, 2006 I sent a draft of the report with a comprehensive strategy, budget and timeline to your offices. Based on comments we have received, we will refine the strategy and provide a final report by July 28, 2006. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:lm

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors